

S-NA-P

A NEW *SIPROETA* (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE)
FROM VENEZUELA

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During several years stay at El Pao, Bolívar, Venezuela, Señor Albert Gadou collected a series of a *Siproeta* which was identified by entomologists at the Central University, Maracay, Venezuela, as *Victorina trayja* Hübner. When these butterflies were shown to me I expressed the view that they represented an undescribed population standing intermediate in pattern and coloration between Brazilian *V. trayja* and *V. epaphus* of Central America and northwestern South America. Señor Gadou generously gave me three males and a female for further study and I have passed them along to Dr. Richard M. Fox, of Carnegie Museum, for his opinion. Since Dr. Fox had some years ago completed a genitalic analysis of *Victorina* and, in collaboration with Mr. Alden H. Forbes, has a detailed revision in manuscript, he was immediately able to verify that the El Pao series requires a name, that it is a subspecies of *V. epaphus* and that the correct generic name is *Siproeta* Hübner, 1827. Dr. Fox has asked me to publish the description so that the name will be available for his forthcoming revision, which will include photographs and morphologic details of all species and subspecies.

I take pleasure in naming this new subspecies in honor of its collector, my good friend Señor Albert Gadou.

Siproeta epaphus gadoui, new subspecies

MALE: Upper side of both wings with a deep-black ground color. On the forewing a white band runs diagonally from the middle of the costa across the base of space M₂-M₃ to the hindmargin near the tornus; is rather uniformly wide (about 7 mm.) down to Cu₁, below which it abruptly narrows; and along its proximal edge there is some blue dusting. Veins crossing this band are narrowly but distinctly black. In the discal cell there is a cluster of five small blue spots lying just proximal of the white band. On the hindwing the white band runs in a submarginal position from the outer end of the costal margin, where it is about 6 mm. wide, down to M₃, gradually tapering to a point. Two rows of

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small blue submarginal spots continue this band from M_3 to the anal angle, where a pair of white spots lie on either side of the black 2A.

Under side of both wings with a russet brown ground color. Forewing with the white band and blue discal spots as on the upper side. Outer margin with a narrow dark brown band broken by a tiny white spot in each space except in Cu_2-2A , where there are two such spots. On the hindwing the white band is a little narrower than on the upper side and instead of terminating in a point at M_3 , it is 2 mm. wide there and bends sharply basad, continuing to the anal angle, gradually becoming narrower and changing color to powder blue. Four small white spots near the anal angle are placed proximal of the blue band, with two of these spots in Cu_2-2A ; outer margin narrowly black; fringe black with white spots between the veins.

FEMALE: Like the male but larger and the white spots and bands stronger and bolder.

LENGTH OF FOREWING: Male holotype, 42 mm.; female allotype, 51 mm.

HOLOTYPE MALE AND ALLOTYPE FEMALE: El Pao, Bolivar, Venezuela; 9-ii-1965 and 9-x-1965; 560 m.; A. Gadou. In Carnegie Museum.

PARATYPES: 6 males and 2 females from the same locality and collector, various dates. One pair each in the collections of Albert Gadou and of Harold Skinner, Caracas, Venezuela; two males in the collection of the Central University, Maracay, Venezuela; two males retained for the present in the author's collection.

This subspecies is at once distinguished from both *S. e. epaphus* and *S. e. trayja* by having the white band much wider; it lacks the bright orange coloring found on the upper side of the forewing apex of *epaphus*; it is further distinguished from *trayja* by the russet brown ground color on the under side.